(b) If so, what was the total export growth recorded during 2001;

(c) whether other major economies recorded a negative growth in exports; and

(d) if so, what efforts are being made to improve the export growth further?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, as compared to most Asian countries, except China, India is the only one to record a positive growth in export during 2001, as per the WTO Annual Report, 2002. Exports of India's merchandise goods have registered a growth of 4% in 2001 whereas Asia as a whole registered a negative growth rate (-) 9%.The major economies of North America, Japan and EU also witnessed deterioration in export performance at (-) 6% (-) 16% & (-) 1% respectively during 2001.

(d) Based on the MediumTerm Export Strategy announced by the Department of Commerce and the action plans prepared by the various Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards, specific product and market related strategies are implemented. In the Exim Policy 2002— 07, a number of measures have been announced to promote exports which include additional features for Special Economic Zones, a scheme to reimburse certain admissible expenses for export of certain agricultural products, development of clusters to help small scale exports, additional support for electronic hardware exports, further reduction in transaction costs, etc.

**FDI in IT Sector**

2096. SHRIJ.CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has not been able to attract FDI in IT and Telecommunications since 1991 as compared to other South Asian Countries;

(b) if so, the total FDI secured during the last ten years out of which how much was in the IT and Telecommunications sector and how does it compare with China, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan;

(c) whether it is a fact that even with the FDI in the IT and Telecom sector, investment in hardware manufacturing and software development was negligible; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (d) India accounted for around 76% of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into South Asia during the year 2000 as reported in the World Investment Report, 2001 published by UNCTAD. India is emerging as an important destination for FDI in the areas of Telecommunications and InformationTechnology.

FDI received in the country during the period from 1.8.91 to 31.5.02 in Information Technology (Computer Software, Electronics, Computer Hardware and Other Software) and Telecommunication Sectors is as under—

| Sector | Amount of FDI Inflow* (Rs. in crore) | % of total |
|---|---|---|
| Information Technology | 6569.96 | 9.50 |
| Telecommunications | 9230.16 | 13.35 |

"This excludes inflows against ADRs/GDRs, acquisition of existing shares, RBI's-NRI schemes and advances pending issue of shares.

The total FDI received during this period in all sectors is Re 1,19,088.52 crore.

**Export of flowers**

2097. SHRIKARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE
SHRISANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government realize the potential of exporting flowers to Asian markets; and